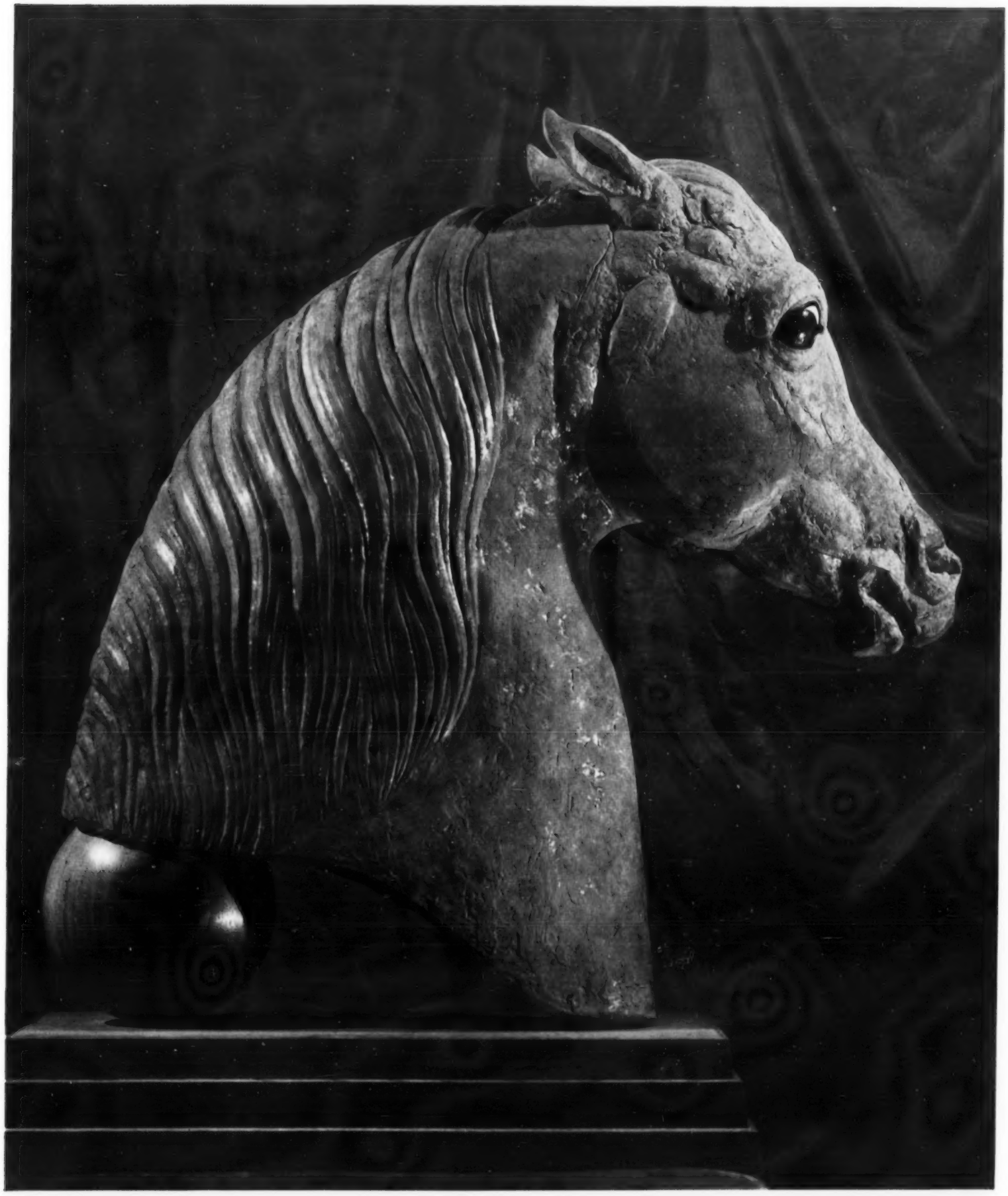
THE GREAT SOLEMNITY OF THE CORONATION:

THE QUEEN ANOINTED, CROWNED AND BLESSED.

THIS rich, glowing and detailed colour photograph looks down into the Theatre of Westminster Abbey from above the Altar, at the Queen, "a figure of molten gold," seated in King Edward's Chair, wearing the great and blazing Crown of St. Edward, and holding in her hands the Royal Sceptre, with the huge and flashing Star of Africa diamond, and the Rod of Equity, the Sceptre with the Dove. The moment in time is that when the Queen has been crowned and received the Blessing from the Archbishop; the Great Officers and the Bearers of the Regalia have taken up their places behind the crimson Throne; the Archbishop, the Dean and the Bishops Assistant are moving from the Chair to the Throne in readiness for the Inthronization; on either side of the Queen stand the Bishops of Durham, and Bath and Wells, in readiness to conduct her to the Throne; and before her stands the Marquess of Salisbury, bearing the jewelled Sword of State, who shall precede her thither. On either side of the Choir, divided by that rich blue carpet, wait the great of the Commonwealth and Empire and the honoured guests of the world. In the arch of the South Transept are the Queen's Consort and the other Royal Dukes, the Peers in their coronets, the Heralds and the Lord Mayor of London. Near the Mistress of the Robes and the Trainbearers blazes the gold plate of the Abbey; and in the Royal Gallery, behind that plate, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother leans forward to explain to Prince Charles the historic and momentous drama of which his mother is the principal figure.

THE COLOUR AND PAGEANTRY OF THE CORONATION PROCESSION: DETACHMENTS OF THE FOOT GUARDS MARCHING ALONG OXFORD STREET INTO OXFORD CIRCUS, SHOWING THE VAST CROWDS WHO LINED THE DECORATED ROUTE.

The Coronation Procession from Westminster Abbey to Buckingham Palace on June 2, with its hundreds of marching men representing the Armed Services of the British Commonwealth and Empire, was an unforgettable spectacle. Prominent among the military contingents were the detachments of the Foot Guards, the scarlet of their tunics a blaze of colour in the grey afternoon and their steadiness and precision evoking the admiration of the crowds lining the route. Our colour photograph was taken as the Foot Guards, following the contingent of the Royal Navy and Royal Marines, were turning out of Oxford Street into Oxford Circus to pass along Regent Street. The Guardsmen are marching with rifles on the right shoulder, having "changed arms" to relieve the strain of the long march. The Bands of the Irish and Welsh Guards and the Corps of Drums of the 1st Battalions of these Regiments marched with the detachments, who were followed by The King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery, and the carriage procession of Colonial Rulers. The large, pink, plastic "Alexandra" roses seen above were a feature of the decorations in Oxford Circus, along Regent Street and in Piccadilly Circus.



THE HEAD OF A FAMOUS ARAB HORSE MODELLED IN HEROIC SIZE BY HERBERT HASELTINE: *RASEYN* (*SKOWRONEK-RAYYA*), FOALED IN 1923 AND STILL ALIVE, IN HIS 31ST YEAR.

This heroic-size Head of an Arab Horse by Herbert Haseltine was on view at his recent London Exhibition in aid of the King George VI. Memorial Fund. The model, in plaster of Paris, with antique blue-green patina and lapis lazuli and ivory eyes, is to be cast in bronze, and ornamented with lapis lazuli and ivory. *Raseyn* was bred by Lady Wentworth at the Crabbet Park Arabian Stud. His sire was the Crabbet Champion *Skowronek*; and his dam *Rayya*, and other ancestors were also bred at Crabbet. He was foaled in 1923 and is still alive, now in his thirty-first year. He was sold to Mr. W. K. Kellogg as a colt for 5000 guineas; in 1939 was crowned "King Horse" at Los Angeles, and has been Champion Arabian Sire of America ever since. His best son, *Ferseyn*, is owned by Mr. Reese, of Covina, California. Mr. Haseltine states that in modelling *Raseyn*'s head he was inspired by the reproduction in colour of the 4700-year-old copper Bearded Bull of Sumeria in our issue of September 13, 1952.

ON DUNADD, ANCIENT CORONATION ROCK OF THE SCOTTISH KINGS OF DALRIADA: KING AIDAN, FROM WHOM QUEEN ELIZABETH II. IS DESCENDED.

Aidan, King of the ancient Scottish realm of Dalriada, founded in *c.* 500 A.D. in what is now Argyllshire, by Fergus Mor, who had come from the Irish Dalriada, is an ancestor of our Royal family, for Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother counts King Robert the Bruce, a descendant of Aidan, among her forbears, as did his late Majesty King George VI. Dunadd, a rocky hill rising from the Moss of Crinan, is believed to have been the site on which the Coronation of the ancient Scottish Kings of Dalriada took place. The supposed spot is a level surface of rock surrounded by short grass near the summit. The likeness of a boar is incised in the rock there, and beside it is the print of a human foot carved out of the rock facing north-east. On the farther side of the boar is a circular hollow, or *ballan*, in the rock. It is thought that the kings were crowned as they stood with one foot forward and placed in the footmark; and that they were anointed with holy water from the round hollow. Daphne Allen's painting, reproduced above, is a reconstructed portrait of Aidan standing on Dunadd. She records her thanks to Mr. R. B. K. Stevenson, Keeper of the National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh, for his help, and notes that "King Aidan's Coronation ceremony was performed by St. Columba, on Iona, but doubtless the King would also take possession of his realm in the ancient rite at his capital of Dunadd."

From the painting by Daphne Allen.